

whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought to reform the old or establish a new government, the doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression is absurd, slavish and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

Art. 7. That the right of the people to participate in the Legislature is the best security of liberty, and the foundation of all free government; for this purpose elections ought to be free and frequent, and every white male citizen having the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution, ought to have the right of suffrage.

Art. 8. That the Legislative, Executive and Judicial powers of government ought to be forever separate and distinct from each other; and no person exercising the functions of one of said departments, shall assume or discharge the duties of any other.

Art. 9. That no power of suspending laws or the execution of laws, unless by, or derived from the Legislature ought to be exercised or allowed.

Art. 10. That freedom of speech and debate or proceedings in the Legislature, ought not to be impeached in any court of judicature.

Art. 11. That Annapolis be the place of meeting of the Legislature, and the Legislature ought not to be convened or held at any other place but from evident necessity.

Art. 12. That for redress of grievances and for amending and strengthening and preserving the laws, the Legislature ought to be frequently convened.

Art. 13. That every man hath a right to petition the Legislature for the redress of grievances in a peaceable and orderly manner.

Art. 14. That no aid, charge, tax, burthen or fees, ought to be rated or levied under any pretence without the consent of the Legislature.

Art. 15. That the levying of taxes by poll is grievous and oppressive and ought to be prohibited; that paupers ought not to be assessed for the support of the Government, but every other person in the State, or person holding property therein, ought to contribute his proportion of public taxes for the support of the government according to his actual worth in real or personal property; yet fines, duties, or taxes may properly and justly be imposed or laid with a political view for the good government and benefit of the community.